



GLOBAL BEST PRACTICES

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CATEGORY

Transportation

Introduction

In India, there are NO standards imposed whatsoever for number plates for vehicles. One often finds different shapes, different styles of lettering and sometimes even weird markings. By the same token, even the color used on number plates is left to one's whims and fancies with even mirror finish number plates that reflect headlight into the eye of the driver during nights. The purpose of this global best practice is to report what is adopted in the United States of America. The department of transportation is vested with the authority to "issue" number plates with certain minimum variation allowed for personal preferences like having a "personalized number plate".

Existing Status

The Regional Transport Authority (RTA) does not come into picture with respect to approving the Number Plates for vehicles. Instead, after they allot a number to a vehicle, it is up to the owner of the vehicle to actually get the number plate fixed in a manner that fits the individual's taste; which often times is NOT standardized at all.



What do you call the above? A Number Plate?



Proposed Improvement

All vehicular number plates MUST follow a standard lettering, standard size of lettering and a standard color scheme. The Regional Transport Authority for a reasonable price can very well issue these number plates or provide a standards to the number plate makers to follow. And, in the process become responsible for regulating and mandating the standards for vehicular number plates.

Brief Implementation Strategy

All vehicles currently plying on the roads must be given a duration of about 1 to 2 months to obtain new number plates from the RTA or authorized number plate vendors. The RTA, prior to this must shortlist the suppliers of these number plates and/or prescribe the minimum accepted standards for number plates. And, then after the grace period is over, must resort to active policing through the Traffic police to ensure compliance to the standards.

Support Requirements

Must be able to define the minimum standards for number plates for the different types of vehicles, 2 wheelers, 4 wheelers and heavy motor vehicles such as buses and lorries. They must then make it very objective in defining the lettering scheme and the material used for such lettering.

Case Studies

Followed throughout The United States of America with no exception.

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